



**1158th meeting of the
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**
7:30PM Wednesday October 24, 2012
Building C, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California

**Coins, tokens and medals of the
Panama Pacific International
Exposition**

Michael Wehner

Dan Hipple presented his talk, **Toivo Johnson's Bad Idea.**

Toivo Johnson was a Maine coin dealer specializing in U.S. commemorative coins. He was a 30 year member of the ANA. He issued a set of medals honoring coin designers in 1962 and 1963. Dan found the series particularly difficult to research and the information that is available generally cites on or two sources.

Toivo approached Medallion Art with his idea for the series, but the company declined participation unless he modified some of his plans for the medal designs. Metal Arts Company in Rochester, New York had no problems with his idea and agreed to make the medal series. Six different medals were struck, but did not sell well.

Wanting to learn more about the series, Dan learned that Toivo had two other large medals designed and struck in addition to a smaller sized series issued for the centennial of Maine's statehood. After acquiring a store card issued by another Johnson in Maine, Dan decided to call the phone number on the 30+ year old token and found Toivo's son on the other end. We will be hearing more about his research in the future.

Exhibits included:

Ken shared his collection of DVDs with TV episodes that featured rare coins. The Streets of San Francisco solved a crime involving a collection of double eagles, while Hawaii 50 went in search of the \$100,000 nickel.

Michael shared stories of British museums.

Glen exhibited a a French 1833 medal of Franklin and Montyon, an article on the carousel of 1622 medal, and a Ludi Equestres commemorative.

Herb shared an elaborate Native Sons of the Golden West medal.

Bill shared an 1893 World's Columbian Exposition official medal struck on a Braided Hair large cent and the 100 Anniversary of the New York Numismatic Club publication, *An Island of Civility*.

Raffle Prizes:

Michael won an 1880 British historical medal.

Ed won a 1973 San Francisco Cable Car medal.

Dan won Mort Reed's book, Abraham Lincoln, and a large Golden Gate Bridge medal.

Stephen won a 1951 King George IV Festival of Britain crown and a Toivo Johnson medal donated by Dan.



Frank Strazzarino receives his 50th Anniversary Medal from President Stephen Huston on September 26, 2012.

New Member:

Welcome Steve Swan.

2012 meeting Schedule:

November 28, 2012: Building C, Fort Mason

December 26, 2012: Building C, Fort Mason

PCNS 100th Anniversary Medal Designs Sought

The Board of Directors is soliciting medal designs for our proposed 100th Anniversary Medal. Anyone can contribute their ideas and the person submitting the winning design idea will receive an example of the medal when it is issued. Please send your design to PCNS, P.O. Box 475656, San Francisco, CA 94147-5656. The PCNS logo will occupy one side.

Past PCNS Anniversary Medals:

